

NATIONAL ACTIVE AND RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES  
SAN FRANCISCO CHAPTER 65  
**SENTINEL**

HERMAN BRACEY, EDITOR

Meets 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday each month, FOB 90 – 7<sup>th</sup> Street; SF; Lower Level Room B-040

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Ph 1 202 234 1111  
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Ph 1 866-220-0044

**DECEMBER 2009 NEWSLETTER**

**THERE IS NO REGULAR MEETING THIS MONTH**

**SEE YOU AT DELANCY STREET**

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

DEC 16 **HOLIDAY LUNCHEON** AT DELANCY STREET (600 Embarcadero at Brannan Street)

DEC 25 **MERRY CHRISTMAS/HO, HO, HO**

JAN 20 REGULAR MEETING/ PROGRAM TBA

**PRESIDENT: JANE RAMOS, 875 SANCHEZ ST., SF, CA. 94114; 826-3337 jecramos@sbcglobal.net**

**GREETINGS AND CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL CHAPTER MEMBERS WITH BIRTHDAYS AND/OR ANNIVERSARIES IN DECEMBER....** We held our election for new 2010 officers at our November meeting. The new officers are: **President - Gerald Hall, 1st Vice President - Martha Raup, 2nd Vice President - Herman Bracey, Secretary - Jane Ramos, and Treasurer - Dianne Joseph.** These officers will be sworn in at our December luncheon at the Delancy Street Restaurant on Wednesday, December 16. We hope that you will be able to attend -- please send in your reservation early, as space is limited.

Chapter 65 sends a big **THANK YOU** to **Doug Betten**, Regional Administrator for OASAM, Dept. of Labor, and his staff, **Francine Roby, Julie Jervoso, Cara Morkert, Joanne Kirmes, and Anna Cheng** for all their help in arranging for us to hold our Chapter meetings in the new Federal Building this past year. We know this involved lots of time and lots of work on their part and we greatly appreciate their efforts. The visibility of NARFE has been substantially improved and it enabled us to get the word out about the importance of NARFE's mission to all federal workers and retirees. It's been a great year for our chapter.

Your Chapter members have also been staffing NARFE tables at various health fairs during this "Open Season;" **Herman Bracey** attended the health fair on **11/10 at 450 Golden Gate**; **Leslie Ching, Beatrice Bertwell, and Jane Ramos** attended the health fair on **11/17 at 90 7th St.** **Martha Raup and Frank Morelli** will be attending the health fair at the **EPA, 75 Hawthorne St., on 12/ 2.** At these venues, we are given a table from which we're able to distribute NARFE literature and applications as well as chat with the federal workers. If you'd like to be involved in any events of this type in the future, please let us know. We can really use your help!

**Happy Holidays** to all our members from your Chapter 65 officers, new and old. We are looking forward to seeing you in 2010. Stay informed, stay with NARFE, and don't forget to check the NARFE website, and send those letters and emails to Congress when asked. It's very, very easy!

**LEGISLATION: BEATRICE BERTWELL, 650-834-7493**

NARFE has not taken a position on the health care reform bills but continues to watch various provisions of the bills to make sure they do not harm Federal retirees. The House leadership has formally introduced H.R. 3962, legislation overhauling health care. Under H.R. 3962, Federal employees will be able to keep the insurance in the system they have now, and nothing in the bill specifically impacts the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program (FEHBP). However, any comprehensive plan that changes insurance law, provider financing, taxation policy, and health infrastructure will have some ramifications on how FEHBP operates in the larger health system.

NARFE continues to be concerned about proposals made during committee consideration of S. 1796, the Senate health care overhaul bill, which would have required FEHBP participants to go into the new exchanges or opened the FEHBP to non-Federal civilian employees without separate risk pools. Although the House and Senate bills currently contain neither proposal, NARFE remains concerned that they could be added to the bills at another point in the legislative process. Although H.R. 3962 would not require Federal workers and annuitants to join an exchange system in lieu of FEHBP, members of Congress would have the option of joining. In the Senate Sen. Grassley offered an amendment during the Senate Finance Committee markup of S. 1796 in September to mandate that members of Congress, Congressional staff, and other Federal employees enroll in the exchange. NARFE opposed this amendment. The committee later accepted a weakened version of the Grassley measure, which would only impose the mandate on lawmakers and their staff and not on other Federal workers. **NARFE members should be ready to act, if grassroots advocacy on this issue is needed.**

**MERRY CHRISTMAS**

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**"NARFE - Your Voice in Congress"**

Visit **OUR CHAPTER 65 WEB SITE:** (<http://www.narfe65.org>) for more Chapter information, photos, archived newsletter, etc. **NATIONAL WEB SITE:** (<http://www.narfe.org>); **CSFC WEB SITE:** (<http://www.csfcnarfe.org>) **NARFE DUES:** Currently National Dues are \$29.00 and Chapter 65 Dues are \$8.00 annually. Mail check for the full \$37.00, along with your **DUES RENEWAL NOTICE**, when you receive it, to NARFE, Membership Services, 606 Washington St, Alexandria, Va. 22314-1914.

**SERVICE OFFICER: DAVID GARCIA 510 235-7750**

Important numbers: **OPM 1-888-767-6738** (Administrative Problems); **NARFE 1-800-456-8410** (Membership Problems); **SOCIAL SECURITY 1-800-772-1213** (Life Cycle Problems ); **LTC 1-800 582-3337** (For Applications and Information Kits); **OPM Toll Number 1-724-794-5216.**

**SUNSHINE: EDITH HIGA; 566-7358**

We send out Get Well Wishes to **Fran Chan, Gerald Hall and Rosie Smith.**

**TREASURER'S REPORT: JESSE RAMOS 826-3337**

Balance at 10/1/09	\$6,225.18
Income	\$ 463.19
Expenses	\$ 266.14
Balance at 10/31/09	\$6,422.23

**NARFE-PAC: HERMAN BRACEY**

It's not too late to make a contribution to NARFE-PAC for 2009; the necessary coupon is on page 13 of the December issue of NARFE Magazine. Just remember, you help yourself when you contribute to NARFE-PAC

**MEMBERSHIP: HERMAN BRACEY, 651 COLE ST APT 2, SF, CA. 94117; 668-2337**

A warm Welcome to: **Edward Baumgarten, Dwight Conner, J M Lienkaemper, Orville T Magoon, John Petkewich, Susan Rincon, John Smerdon, Apryl Williams and William A Zapata.** Also, our **thanks to Juanita G Cardinelli and Rochelle C Wright** for reinstating their memberships.

**HOLIDAY LUNCHEON:** This year's luncheon is scheduled for **Wednesday, December 16, 2009**, at **The Delancy Street Restaurant, 600 Embarcadero at Brannan Street in San Francisco.** Our guest speaker will be Dee Shallenberger, District V Vice President. No-host cocktails at 11:30 a.m., with lunch at 12:00 noon. Lunch costs \$25.00 for members and \$27 for guests. **The entrees are: Rotisserie Beef Au Ju, Chicken Piccata over Linguini, or Mediterranean Vegetable Platter.** Lunch includes: appetizers, soup du jour with assorted house-made flat breads and butter; mixed green salad with balsamic vinaigrette; unlimited coffee, hot tea and ice tea, and one soda per person. Dessert is a choice of Tiramisu or Fresh Berries with Grand Marnier.

**Attendance is limited to thirty-five people.** There will be Valet parking at \$4 per vehicle; Ride Public Transportation via Muni Metro Street cars; T-Third or N-Judah "inbound" toward AT&T Ballpark. You can board either street car at one of the Market Street underground Muni Metro Stations and disembark at the outdoor Brannan Street Station and walk across the street. **Donated door prizes happily accepted.**

**PLEASE MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS EARLY AND USE THE COUPON BELOW!**

**====Cut Here ===== Holiday Luncheon Reservation ===== Please Respond No Later than December 5**

Mail reservation to: Leslie Ching, 160 Gardenside Dr., #101, San Francisco 94131

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone No: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Check choice of entrée: Rotisserie Beef [ ] Chicken Piccata [ ] Mediterranean Vegetable Platter [ ]

Number In Party: \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$25/member; \$27/guest. Total enclosed: \$\_\_\_\_\_

Please attach names of guests and their entrée. Make checks payable to **NARFE Chapter 65**